

# REPORT (PART II)

ON

## NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

### Week ending Saturday, 20th July 1901.

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REPORT OF THE

NATIVE-OWNED ENTERPRISE

FOR THE YEAR 1964

GENERAL INFORMATION	
1. Name of Enterprise	...
2. Location	...
3. Date of Report	...
4. Name of Reporter	...
5. Name of Interviewee	...
6. Title of Interviewee	...
7. Address of Enterprise	...
8. Telephone Number	...
9. Type of Enterprise	...
10. Number of Employees	...
11. Number of Customers	...
12. Number of Suppliers	...
13. Number of Competitors	...
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## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

1961. "A great flutter has been caused," says the *Indian Mirror*, "by the flattering reception accorded by the Czar to yet another mission from the Grand Llama of Thibet."

INDIAN MIRROR,  
12th June 1901.

Thibet and Russia.

The first mission was received by the Czar at Levidia. It was a Buddhist mission, but did not hail from Thibet. Only the Grand Llama of East Siberia waited upon His Majesty to pay his respects to his Sovereign, and to ask permission to travel abroad and visit the different Bhuddhist shrines." In his travels the Grand Llama came to Calcutta. Much useful information might have been got from him by Government, but the opportunity was lost. The *Mirror* is of opinion that this new so-called Thibetan mission is merely the Grand Llama, on the completion of his travels, paying his respects to the Czar. "If, however, it is a Thibetan mission that has waited upon the Czar, it would be a matter which we could not easily explain away."

1962. Referring to the alleged Thibetan mission to the Czar, the *Indian Mirror* says: "The significance of the event lies in this—that the Thibetans have sternly repelled our

INDIAN MIRROR,  
18th July 1901.

*Ibid.*

own advances. The Llamas would receive no British mission, nor would they send one of their own to Calcutta or Simla. The mere cementing of friendly relations between Russia and Thibet is a great event, the moral force of which will be strongly felt in all Buddhistic territories."

1963. In publishing a review of a book of this name by a Mr. Sherard, the *Amrita Bazaar Patrika* says: "From this book it will be seen that, if the upper ten of England

AMRITA BAZAAR  
PATRIKA,  
18th July 1901.

The Bitter Cry.

are lolling in wealth, the lower ninety are wallowing in dirt and vice in a manner that simply defies description. Is this the vaunted civilisation of the West? Is this the fruit of the Christian science which Bishop Welldon is so anxious to introduce into this country? If instead of fighting for two worthless States in South Africa, and spending hundreds of millions sterling for that purpose, the present ministry had applied the money to the amelioration of the condition of the British masses, then every home in England, Scotland and Ireland might have been converted into an abode of prosperity and happiness."

1964. The *Indian Mirror* remarks as follows with regard to England's determination to continue the Boer War to the finish:—

The Boer war.

"Disinterested eye-witnesses have proved that the finishing process is being tried with a vengeance on helpless Boer women and children in the 'refuge camps,' in many of which even His Majesty's Ministers have tacitly admitted that the death-rate has been over four hundred per thousand per annum! If this be not murderous work, we fail to understand what else it can be. Even the worst plague epidemic does not prove so fatal. With these facts in painful prominence before us, the assertions of Mr. Brodrick, Minister for War, appear to be wantonly heartless. His Government, he said at a banquet a couple of nights ago, would place no obstacles in the way of Lord Kitchener, who was trusted implicitly. This same Lord Kitchener supervises the 'refuge camps' which have become veritable graveyards, and almost every other day 'publicly hangs' a 'rebel' or two. This is a curious way of a 'fight to the finish.'"

INDIAN MIRROR,  
18th July 1901.

1965. The *Amrita Bazaar Patrika* says the state of affairs in South Africa has naturally led reasonable and cool-headed Englishmen to propose peace and come out of the situation

AMRITA BAZAAR  
PATRIKA,  
18th July 1901.

Are the pro-Boers traitors?

as best they can. The War party that now controls England of course does not like these peace-loving Englishmen, so they first class the advocates of peace as pro-Boers, and then subject them to the fury and prejudice of an unreasoning mob. Mr. Chamberlain endeavours to intimidate his critics into silence by declaring that every man who finds fault with the Government, that is, with Mr. Chamberlain, is a "pro-Boer and a traitor."

"One strong reason why Mr. Chamberlain cannot make men keep silent about the Boer war is that this conflict is so ignominious, so one-sided, so much like pitting a giant against a pigmy. When war really means an endangered national existence, then, indeed, there may properly be a call for complete union of all citizens to save the nation's life. In a struggle like that between France and Germany, there is no room for recriminations or criticism



when gigantic national forces close in mortal combat to decide the national fate. But petty wars where the national strength is scarce enlisted, and the national life not at all imperilled, these armed struggles in which policy is so tortuous, motives so mixed, and the real nature and aim of the work they doing are impossible to justify even to themselves—to expect honest and clear-sighted men to be silent about the injustice and disgrace of such commercial enterprises calling themselves war, is to expect that right and decency will be left without a witness in the world.”

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

### (a)—Police.

EAST,  
13th July 1901.

1966. The Mymensingh correspondent of the *East* reports that in 1899 one Sayyid Ali, of Haliurah, moved the Nandail police to institute a case under section 110, Criminal Procedure Code, against Salia and Gazia. No local enquiry was held by the trying Deputy Magistrate, and the case was undisposed of for months, when Sayyid Ali turned a defence witness, and the accused were discharged. The case was previously tested by the Inspector of Police, who must have known the value of the evidence forthcoming and the antecedents of Sayyid Ali. Yet this man was not examined on behalf of the Crown, but was placidly allowed to be examined in defence. Will, asks the correspondent, any sane man believe that the Court Sub-Inspector who conducted the case for the Crown was not aware of the collusion by which the accused were fleeced and discharged? . . . . . If the offenders could not be brought to justice, the man who gave false information might have been brought to book. . . The spectacle of the District Magistrate of Mymensingh being sent elsewhere to set other people's houses in order is comical indeed. He ought to be asked to clean his own Augean stable first.

POWER AND GUARDIAN,  
13th July 1901.

1967. Referring to the frequency of outrages on women in East Bengal, *Power and Guardian* compares the present state of affairs with that which prevailed towards the close of the Moslem rule in Bengal, and remarks that such a condition of things is not consistent with the boastful declaration of the rulers that profound internal peace reigns in the country. Within the last few years a reign rather of terror has been established in the eastern districts of Bengal by bands of low-class Muhammadan *budmashes*, and elsewhere by loafing European railway employes, soldiers and planters.

In the opinion of the writer, what is needed is the infliction of deterrent punishments which will bring these *budmashes* to their senses and terrify them into giving up their inhuman practices.

POWER AND GUARDIAN,  
14th July 1901.

1968. Referring to the question of reform and re-organisation of the Calcutta Police, *Power and Guardian* compares the force favourably with the Bengal Police, in which no effective supervision and control is exercised, and which does not possess a Detective Department worth the name. It, however, urges a reform in the system of appointing Superintendents, and states that three of these should be recruited from among the native officers. The change would be attended with better results, and would do more justice than the present system. Inspector Brojendra Nath Chatterji, the best detective officer in the force, has often been unjustly superseded on account of his indifferent acquaintance with English, as if a policeman's duties call for any great learning. As a matter of fact the present Superintendents are certainly not finished scholars.

*Power and Guardian* does not advocate the placing of the Commissioner under orders of the Inspector-General, and considers the present arrangement best suited to ensure a spirit of honest rivalry between the two forces, which is sure to result in general good.

BENGAL, 17th July 1901.

1969. As pointing to the necessity of the reforms which are now engaging the attention of the Government, embracing the improvement of the status of the higher as well as the lower grades of the Police Service, the *Bengalee* relates the story of a District Superintendent in Assam, who two years ago used

A Superintendent of Police in Assam.



to take the contracts of roads and bridges from the Local Board of his district, impress coolies and pay them at a third or quarter of the current rate of wages, employ his subordinates to supervise the business, and often absent himself from head-quarters for the same purpose. All this had been openly done for years with the full knowledge of his Magistrate, and even when the officer was transferred, he continued to carry on his business through the obliging police subordinates he had left behind.

The *Bengalee* is prepared to disclose the name of the officer in question, and substantiate the charges it has made.

1970. In another article in the same issue, the *Bengalee* submits that all police reforms, whatever may be their character,

Police reforms.

would be halting if they were not to leave an abiding mark on the higher offices of the Department. As things stand at present, the District Superintendent has so little to do that he passes his days in an easy-going manner and in blissful ignorance of men and things around him; even the character of his subordinates is an unknown quantity with him. The result of this is that the chaff and grain sell at the same price, and matters run in a groove indicating general rottenness. To make the control of the Superintendent of Police over his subordinates more effective, it is, says the writer, of the highest importance that the sphere of his duties should be enlarged, and he must be a man who possesses the knack of keeping himself in touch with popular sentiment.

1971. Commenting on the Bengal Government's letter to the Chamber of Commerce, that no clue has been obtained to the

Rendering administration easy.

men who boarded the *City of Venice* or to the property stolen, the *Bengalee* remarks that the failure furnishes another illustration of the lamentable lack of efficiency in the agency for the detection of crime.

With regard to the appointment of additional chaukidars in the villages close to the scene of the wreck, the inhabitants of which are to be assessed at a higher rate for the chaukidari tax, the writer asks whether this wholesale and indiscriminate punishment is consistent with justice. "The law empowers the Local Government to place additional police force in any locality at the cost of the people, but is it wise or expedient to exercise this extraordinary power upon mere suspicion? An act of lawlessness is committed at a place; the executive, whose undoubted duty it is to prevent and detect crime, fails in its duty, and Government proceeds to punish the inhabitants of the neighbourhood wholesale, without the slightest proof of their complicity in the offence! We beg to submit, with all the emphasis that we can command, that this is rendering administration easy, by methods which must result in the demoralisation of the executive."

#### (b)—Working of the Courts.

1972. The *Bengalee* is greatly surprised at the order which Justices Ghose and Taylor have passed in this case, which practically discredits the opinion of the Chemical

The Calcutta Ghi Case.

Examiner, and puts it to the learned Judges whether, after this, one can expect to induce any self-respecting chemist to appear before the Municipal Magistrate of Calcutta.

1973. The *Bengalee*, commenting on the sentence of five years' rigorous imprisonment passed on an unfortunate husband who, in defending the honour of his wife, killed her

A severe sentence.

ravisher, whom he caught in the very act, says that the punishment seems "grossly out of all proportion to the offence."

1974. The *Indian Mirror*, while deploring that now-a-days our High Courts and Chief Courts do not inspire the same

Judges.

amount of confidence that they did in the good old days, is pleased to write of two such Judges as Mr. Justice Aikman and Mr. Justice Fox. "They are worthy of the best traditions of the old Supreme Courts, never making any distinction between Asiatic and European, keeping always an open mind, and deciding cases not in respect of creed or nationality but entirely on their own merits. The country has need of more Foxes and Aikmans."

BENGALÉE,  
17th July 1901.

BENGALÉE,  
17th July 1901.

BENGALÉE,  
12th July 1901.

BENGALÉE,  
14th July 1901.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
14th July 1901.



AMRITA BAZAAR  
PATRIKA,  
15th July 1901.

1975. The following appears in the *Amrita Bazaar Patrika* :—

The Hoff Case.

The reader is aware that the Government of India have called for the record of the Hoff case, and also a return from the Allahabad High Court stating the number of cases during the last five years in which the Judge and the Jury disagreed. We earnestly trust that this does not mean any interference with the jury system by the Supreme Government. If there have been many cases of miscarriage of justice in the Allahabad High Court, it is due not to the system but to the *personnel* of the jury empanelled on such occasions. If jurors are recruited from better classes of Europeans and Indians, the chances of perverse verdict would grow less.

AMRITA BAZAAR  
PATRIKA,  
16th July 1901.

1976. The Bankipore correspondent of the *Amrita Bazaar Patrika* reports that of the 18 persons charged with rioting at Bankipore during the last *Muharram*, 13 have been convicted and sentenced each to rigorous imprisonment for a year and-a-half. "For a distance of four miles the streets were thronged with people when the prisoners were being conveyed to jail, and the bitter and heart-rending cries of women and children that followed in the train of the prisoners cleft the sky."

It is rumoured that the defence intend to move the High Court for the transfer of the appeal to the High Court, as it is feared that the Sessions Judge might be prejudiced.

Commenting on the correspondent's language, the *Patrika* asks: "Do our rulers realize what this means? "This means an extraordinary demonstration. The number of people who came to sympathize with the accused must have been immense. For whose benefit were the accused punished? Certainly not for the benefit of the people. That is evident from their attitude. The result of the trial will have a wholesome effect upon the people, say the authorities; yes, they will learn to fear the authorities still more if possible. But they will do something else. If the result will inspire them with fear, it will also call forth resentment in their minds."

The people were going through an exciting ceremony. Every one of them had gone mad, some partially, some fully. Under such circumstances, violence is somewhat excusable. There was surely no deliberate intention of insulting or assaulting the Police, or disobeying authority. The authorities, therefore, might have easily taken a lenient and more generous view of the incident. At the pro-Boer meeting a policeman, who was only doing his duty, was violently knocked down by the son of the manager of a newspaper. There was a case, and the offender was fined. Why is not such practice adopted in India?

AMRITA BAZAAR  
PATRIKA,  
17th July 1901.

1977. The report that the Viceroy has called for the papers in the Hoff case has made the *Amrita Bazaar Patrika* anxious about the fate of trial by jury in the North-Western

Juries and Justice.

Provinces. It hints, however, that strong though the Viceroy may be, the unofficial European in India is not likely to tamely submit to the deprivation of a privilege which he considers his birthright. It then goes on to urge, for the safety of the Empire itself, a just treatment of Indians. "If," it says, "it ever comes to be felt by both communities, European and Indian, that a European offender has nothing to fear from an Indian accuser, then the functions of the Government would be usurped by the subjects, and the result would be anarchy; and anarchy does not mean exclusive gain to the European community. Luckily the reputation of the Government for justice is yet strong and is just now in safe keeping."

(c)—Jails.

AMRITA BAZAAR  
PATRIKA,  
12th July 1901.

1978. The *Amrita Bazaar Patrika*, referring to the Lieutenant-Governor's remark on the Jail Administration Report that the year 1900 was an unhealthy one, says: "If His

Jail mortality in Bengal.

Honour cares to enquire into the matter, he will see that this theory was several times advanced previously and found defective. Some ten years ago, according to the then Lieutenant-Governor, it was bad drinking-water that was responsible for the horrible death-rate in our jails. But though good drinking-water was supplied, the prisoners continued to die as before. Now,



the explanation is what it was nine years ago—"the unhealthiness of the year." But if the general unhealthiness killed the prisoners, it did not kill free people as well. There were more deaths among the inmates of the jails of Jalpaiguri, Rangpur, Mymensingh, Faridpur, Barisal, Motihari, and Chapra in 1900 than among the free population of those districts."

The *Patrika* says the causes of this abnormal mortality are (1) that the prisoners are overworked; (2) that when they fail, as they must, to turn out the allotted quantity of work, they are punished; (3) that they are fed upon the coarsest food available in the district, and are not sufficiently nourished. A man unused to manual work is perhaps employed in working the oil machine, or grinding wheat, or breaking stones, or pounding *soorkee*, or sifting flour; naturally he fails to perform these tasks. He is then punished for short work with half diet or solitary confinement, and is again entrusted with the same work. The punishment, however, takes away the little strength he had, and he therefore again fails, and is then caned or shut up in the cell, with perhaps fetters on. Treated in this manner, he falls ill and is sent to hospital in an almost moribund condition, from which he rarely recovers.

1979. Reverting to this subject the same paper suggests that the heavy mortality among short-termed prisoners can be removed by making a provision that those who are sentenced to six months' imprisonment and less should only be given light work; those sentenced to a year to medium, and so on. "Unless this principle is recognized and embodied in the Jail Code, the scandal will continue to flourish as usual, namely, that a man by committing a simple assault would run the risk of being murdered in the jail, while a dacoit or a cut-throat would be treated as if he were in a father-in-law's house!"

AMRITA BAZAAR  
PATRIKA,  
16th June 1901.

(d)—Education.

1980. The following is taken from the *Amrita Bazaar Patrika* :—

The European and the school-boys of a school in Darbhanga.

If what a Darbhanga correspondent writes to us is to be credited, the relation between the teachers and students of the local school has suddenly become strained under the following extraordinary circumstance. On the 8th instant, at about 10 A.M., while the boys were playing outside the school premises, before the sitting of the school, a European happened to go that way. The children, as ill-luck would have it, were so much taken up with their amusements as not to salute him. This hurt the susceptibilities of the European gentleman. He got so much irritated at the conduct of the boys that he ordered his men to get hold of some of them. Two were caught hold of and taken to the head-master who, it is said, punished them for failing to pay respect to a European, who was a stranger to them. The boys have taken this treatment too much to heart and hence the strained relation.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
17th July 1901.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

1981. The *Bengalee* complains (1) that Municipal administration is seriously impaired by the weakness of the Deputy Chairman, whose procedure is largely determined by the Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents, especially the Assistant Superintendent of the Warrant Department; (2) that Mr. Greer seems keen in regard to the qualifications of candidates for low-paid appointments, while he is quite indifferent to the qualifications of candidates for the higher posts; and (3) that the system of giving increments to clerks in the Municipal Office is altogether fantastic. For instance, if a clerk on Rs. 40 is promoted to the grade of, say, Rs. 50—60, he is required to draw his former pay (Rs. 40) and not, according to the prevailing practice in other offices, the minimum of the new grade, viz., Rs. 50. The reason for this is said to be that the transfer of a clerk from one post to another does not add to his qualifications or increase his usefulness so as to justify his drawing a higher rate of pay.

So long as municipal appointments are not made more attractive and better treatment of municipal employes is not accorded, the writer is convinced that corruption and inefficiency will prevail.

BENGALIEE,  
12th July 1901.



AMRITA BAZAAR  
PATRIKA,  
13th July 1901.

1982. The *Amrita Bazaar Patrika* says: "A hearty welcome was accorded to Mr. Greer on his appointment as Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality; for it was believed that he was one of the very few officers who could manage its affairs satisfactorily under its altered constitution." The drawback has been that he is a stranger to Calcutta with very little experience of the municipal affairs of the town, and has often to rely on the reports of others, by which he is frequently misled. The writer then again tells its readers how the new method of collecting rents is "simply crushing lives out of the poor rate-payers, who are suffering in silence, not knowing where to go or to whom to apply for the redress of their grievances."

It is suggested that the Chairman should call a meeting of some leading men of the town to ascertain the feelings of the rate-payers regarding the Corporation. "He may invite two persons from each ward and learn in a moment all about the seething discontent that prevails in the town."

BENGALIEE,  
16th July 1901.

1983. The *Bengalee* complains of the liberality with which Police assistance is given to the municipal underlings to aid them in their acts of tyranny, while the poor rate-payer is left unprotected against *zulum*. It then advocates resort to the courts of justice as a remedy, and suggests the formation of a Municipal Defence Association in every ward. Subscriptions to be raised from every house for the protection of honour and property by continuous and persistent fighting in the law courts.

BENGALIEE,  
16th July 1901.

1984. The *Bengalee* contains the following account of an alleged act of oppression by an officer of the Calcutta Municipality:—

Jyotish Chandra Roy, an Inspector of the Warrant Department, went to seize the goods of a shop for arrears of municipal rates in respect of a holding situate in Baniapukur Road. Instead of attaching the goods of the defaulter, he seized the goods of a person who is not a defaulter. This illegal action of the Inspector provoked the remonstrance of a respectable neighbour on behalf of the poor helpless shop-keeper. The Inspector had a police constable with him in addition to his retinue of peons and bailiffs; and he directed the constable to arrest the gentleman. The arrest was immediately made, and he was conveyed to the local thana. When these facts were reported to the Head Office, Mr. D'Cruze immediately called at the place and got the unfortunate man released. The Warrant Department having found that an act of grave oppression has been wantonly committed upon a rate-payer, is making strenuous efforts to prevent the parties from bringing any action against the officers concerned and to hush up the matter. The case has caused considerable indignation and excitement in the town.

"Life," says the *Bengalee*, "has become a burden to the rate-payers of Calcutta under the new Act. Honour and property are not safe in the hands of the municipal underlings."

Then follows a column of protest against the new system chiefly intended to show the inability of the Chairman to exercise efficient supervision, the inexperience of the Deputy Chairman, and the tyranny and audacity of the underlings.

BENGALIEE,  
18th July 1901.

1985. Referring to the alleged case of Municipal *zulum* (*vide* preceding paragraph), the *Bengalee* says the Magistrate has not issued summons, but has asked the complainant

to appear with his witnesses on the 30th instant. The *Bengalee* has no objection to the Magistrate satisfying himself about the probable truth of a complaint before issuing summons, but cannot understand why the case should have been adjourned for nearly a fortnight. To postpone a case in this way is to give the accused an opportunity for settling a case which in the public interests should not be compromised.

(h)—General.

INDIAN EMPIRE,  
16th July 1901.

1886. The *Indian Empire* brings to notice that in spite of a Departmental order to the effect that every third vacancy should be given to University graduates or under-graduates, either in or outside the office,

Appointments in the Postmaster-General's office.



there have been recently appointed a number of Eurasians without any University qualifications. "This giving away of the majority of the appointments to Eurasians is another instance of the spirit of the times," and the writer would ask the Postmaster-General to look into the matter.

1987. The *Amrita Bazaar Patrika* complains of an order issued by the Magistrate of Dacca forbidding that boats be moored at the Buckland Bund on the Buriganga river. Several constables headed by a Sub-Inspector and a Havildar have been posted at the bund to enforce the order. The *Patrika* wants to know why the general public should be put to immense trouble and inconvenience for the whim of a Magistrate, and why the Police should be taken away from their legitimate duties and employed in a work in which the Magistrate and a few other local officials are personally interested.

Illegal orders by the Magistrate of Dacca.

AMRITA BAZAAR  
PATRIKA,  
18th July 1901.

1988. With reference to the abovementioned order, the *Bengalee* says:—

*Ibid.*

"We learn with shame and sorrow that what the Magistrate objects to is not the mooring of boats to the foreshore, but to the shameless conduct of some of the Dacca Babus, who, in the company of public women, come out at night in green boats singing filthy songs. The *Bengalee* thinks, however, that if some of the Dacca Babus are in the habit of committing outrage on decency and creating a nuisance, they can be reached by the arm of the law. Innocent people should not be punished while the real culprits are let off scot-free."

BENGALIEE,  
18th July 1901.

1989. The *Bengalee* earnestly hopes that before he leaves Faridpur, Sir John Woodburn will have made some definite arrangements to establish a third subdivision in that district, with its head-quarters at Gopalganj, or at least to post a Sub-Deputy Magistrate there. The troubles endured by the people of Gopalganj, when they have to go as parties in criminal cases to Madaripur, 50 and 60 miles by boat or across marshy land, are again urged as argument in favour of the boon asked for.

The Lieutenant-Governor's coming visit to Faridpur.

BENGALIEE,  
18th July 1901.

1990. The following is an extract from an article in the *Bengalee* on the subject of the Caste Precedence Committees:—

Precedence among castes.

The only result of an effort to decide this question will be to set caste against caste, to engender strife among people who had hitherto been living in peace and amity. And this strife has begun at a time when unity and co-operation for the furtherance of great national objects is sorely needed among all classes of the people. The anti-Congress party must be laughing in their sleeves at this new development. For, if it grows in volume, it is sure in the end to bring about the disruption of the fairest political brotherhood which our ill-fated country has seen for many a century. One can understand the attitude of Government in respect of this question. For our Government is a close bureaucracy and all bureaucracies are intolerant of public opinion, specially when that opinion seeks to be the unanimous opinion of a united people. But that our political chiefs should forget the object they have in view, the object for which they have so long struggled, and should allow themselves to be dragged into doing something, the natural tendency of which is to produce disunion and strife among the various sections of the community, is what is most surprising. Pandora's box has been opened, and the apple of discord has been flung into our midst, and we, like a parcel of school-children, are making a desperate rush, each one of us, to get at the apple. And in the rush we are prepared to dash to the earth our brothers for the sake of gaining—what?

BENGALIEE,  
18th July 1901.

1991. The *Bengalee* regards the concession granted to the British Indian Association of nominating a member to the Local Council as a veritable apple of discord. It has

An apple of discord.

resulted in division in the Association, some of the longheaded members of which are wishing that the boon, which seems much more a curse in disguise, had never been conferred upon that body.

BENGALIEE,  
12th July 1901.

The *Bengalee* sees in the circumstances connected with the withdrawal of a seat from the mufassal municipalities in favour of the zamindars, a blow aimed a *Vakildom*, which is an eyesore to Anglo-Indian officials.



## III.—LEGISLATION.

AMRITA BAZAAR  
PATRIKA.  
16th July 1901.

1902. The following is taken from the *Amrita Bazaar Patrika*:—

The Bombay Land Revenue Bill.

The Bombay Government is only following the usual course by rushing the proposed Land Revenue Bill through the Council. We expected a different procedure from the present Governor, who has already given evidence of his genuine sympathy for the people entrusted to his care. If His Excellency has the welfare of the raiyats at heart, why then this hurry? On the other hand, the proposed legislation being revolutionary in its character, as it altogether does away with the immemorial rights of ownership and transfer, any appearance of haste would be injudicious. The Government says that the law it wants to make is rather of the nature of an experiment. But such experiments have always been attended with disaster. People are yet suffering from such an experiment in the shape of the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act, which has proved an unmitigated evil from the very beginning of its enforcement.

## V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

POWER AND GUARDIAN,  
17th July 1901.

1903. *Power and Guardian* points out that there are indications of an

Impending famine in Mymensingh and Dacca.

impending famine in Mymensingh and Dacca. Prices are high, and thousands are on the verge of starvation. Influential zamindars have already arranged for relief and remission, but the district or provincial authorities do not appear to be moving in the matter. Some instances are quoted of public spirit and philanthropy, which should be emulated by others and lead the Government to do their duty.

AMRITA BAZAAR  
PATRIKA,  
16th July 1901.

1904. The *Amrita Bazaar Patrika* hears of distress in parts of Dacca,

Distress in certain Bengal districts.

Midnapore and Mymensingh, and thinks it is high time for the Government to be up and doing. It hopes that during his present tour, the Lieutenant-Governor will see for himself the condition of the affected districts and open relief measures for the alleviation of those in distress.

1905. The same paper's Uluberia correspondent draws attention to the great distress prevailing in that subdivision, and

*Ibid.*

mentions that a petition, numerously signed, has been submitted to the District Magistrate of Howrah asking for the immediate opening of relief works.

BENGALUR,  
17th July 1901.

1906. The *Bengalee* reports that two delegates of the Indian Association and some other gentlemen accompanied the Sub-

*Ibid.*

divisional Officer of Uluberia in his inspection of some villages in that subdivision. The two classes most affected by the scarcity are the agriculturists and the labourers. The former are in want of seeds and the latter of work. The *Bengalee* would strongly advise the Government to make *takavi* advances. The scarcity should be dealt with in the initial stage, otherwise it may develop into proportions which may bring about disaster.

BENGALUR,  
17th July 1901.

1907. The same paper, noticing the scarcity in several places in the interior of Tangail, mentions that the *aus* crop,

*Ibid.*

which is ready for the sickle, is threatened with destruction by flood. If the people and the authorities do not co-operate to avert this calamity, the sufferings of the people will be certainly intensified, and crime will further increase, as it is said to be doing at present. The paper asks the Subdivisional Officer to make prompt enquiries and adopt measures of relief if necessary.

BENGALUR,  
18th July 1901.

1908. The following telegram appears in the *Bengalee*:—

Distress in Uluberia.

*Uluberia, July 17th*: A public meeting of the Uluberia people was held to-day to raise funds for granting relief to the distressed people of this subdivision. Our popular Munsif, Babu Debendra Bijoy Bose, presided. Babu Dwijendra Nath Bose, of the Indian Association, was present. Rupees 500 was subscribed on the spot. Rice and copper pieces were distributed to 400 sufferers.



## VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

1999. The *Bengalee* gives an account of the preliminary proceedings in the Sealdah Police Court in the case in which three *khalasies* of the Locomotive Department, Eastern Bengal State Railway, were charged with rioting and causing hurt to Mr. A. C. Wilson, an engine-driver.

Assault on a European.

BENGALIEE,  
12th July 1901.

NOTE.—Assistant Inspector-General, Sealdah, has been asked for full particulars of the case.

2000. The *Amrita Bazaar Patrika* publishes the following:—  
We have received the following letter from  
Lord Stanley. constable Narsing, whose pitiable case has moved  
Lord Stanley of Alderley to send £100 for his benefit:—

AMRITA BAZAAR  
PATRIKA,  
12th July 1901.

JALPAIGURI,  
The 9th July.

SIR,—You may remember the poor man who was the victim of the tyranny of officials at Chapra. You were kind enough to call me to Calcutta and were very kind to me when I was there.

The very noble Lord Stanley of Alderley has, taking pity on me, sent £100 for me to Babu Bhupendra Nath Bosu, Solicitor, and the latter has kindly written to me in reply that the money will be made over to me on proper identification.

You were kind enough to keep me in Calcutta for more than 10 days. May I ask you if you will now know me if you see me. For if you can recognise me as the person who suffered at Chapra, the identification must be deemed sufficient. I hope you will kindly give me a reply.

NARSING SING.

P. S.—I am no longer in the Police force.

The facts stated in the letter are all correct. We think we can recognise the man if we see him, as he was at our office for about 10 days.

2001. "Purity" writes to the *Indian Mirror*, complaining of the obscenity of the dramas produced now-a-days at the Bengali theatres. Seeing that a copy of everyone of these plays is presented to the Bengal Government for opinion, it is a wonder that such shameful productions are allowed to see the light of day.

Obscene dramas.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
13th July 1901.

2002. *Power and Guardian* deprecates the decision of the Government of India to present all public buildings and official residences with portraits of His Majesty, and pronounces it an unjustifiable waste of public money, which it is evidently Lord Curzon's desire to put in the pockets of struggling English artists. The money might be exclusively realised from those able to pay income-tax, and not from indigent people, whose contribution towards the expense would be made at the cost of a full meal. If the idea cannot be abandoned it is hoped that Indian artists will be given a hand in the pie.

The King-Emperor's portrait.

POWER AND GUAR-  
DIAN,  
14th June 1901.

2003. The *Indian Mirror* repeats that it looks with great disfavour upon the attempt to introduce the use of tea amongst the people of India. As it is, they can hardly procure even one full meal a day, and they are put to miserable shifts to live up to the requirements of their altered circumstances created by British rule. Is it therefore necessary to aggravate the situation by thrusting upon them a luxury like tea which they can well do without?

Tea.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
14th July 1901.

2004. *Power and Guardian*, advocating the cause of coolies in tea gardens, states that in Assam the coolies' life is at best only a shade better than abject slavery, and on account of his colour, he is treated by Englishmen like "dumb driven cattle." The law passed ostensibly to help the poor men has rendered their position more unbearable, while in reality it has strengthened the hands of their masters. The Assam newspapers are bringing to light the atrocity and iniquity of the planters, and it is hoped the local press will soon be strong enough to cope with their tyranny.

The Assam planter in the Assam press.

POWER AND GUAR-  
DIAN,  
14th July 1901.



AMRITA BAZAAR  
PATRIKA,  
16th July 1901.

2005. The *Amrita Bazaar Patrika* considers that the Maharaja of Darbhanga

Agriculture.

has set an example to all other zamindars, which they would do well to imitate, by appointing a specialist to superintend the cultivation of crops in a portion of his capital and by starting an agricultural school. In view of the present unsatisfactory agricultural outlook, it would, in the opinion of the writer, be doing a public service, if the Indian cultivator were taught the scientific method of cultivation and the introduction of new crops.

BEHAR HERALD,  
17th July 1901.

2006. The following is a *verbatim* extract from the *Behar Herald*:—

Soldiers in Bankipore.

Four soldiers from Dinapore came to a shop on the main road at Bankipore. They did not pay the price of refreshments, and when asked for the same, they created disturbance. The shopkeeper knew not what to do, and was glad to part with his claim, provided they go away quietly.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
17th July 1901.

2007. The *Indian Mirror* has the following:—

Cocaine and schoolboys.

In spite of the recent prosecutions instituted against cocaine vendors in Calcutta, the sale of this deleterious drug seems to go on as merrily as ever. They drive quite a roaring trade, to the undoing of our schoolboys, to whom the use of cocaine is said to be mainly confined, and this, coupled with cigarette-smoking, forms their besetting sin. We have before now invited the attention of the Director of Public Instruction to this matter, and we do so once again. We hope some stringent rules will be passed to put a stop to this evil. Why are not the boys who are caught taking cocaine or smoking cigarettes severely punished?

INDIAN MIRROR,  
18th July 1901.

2008. The following advertisement appears in the *Indian Mirror*:—

#### ASTROLOGER.

2009. K. P. Saraswati, PH. D., may be consulted at 94, Bow Bazar Street,

K. P. Saraswati, PH. D., Astro-  
loger.

opposite to Bangabashi College, from 7 to 10 A.M. and 2 to 5 P.M. He is highly spoken of by several Maharajas, Rajas, Europeans, nobility and gentry of the country, as well as by the leading journals in India.

*N. B.*—Charms are given for all sorts of troubles, dangerous and incurable diseases; they have been proved highly efficacious in the following cases:—

Charms:—(1) for troubles, dangerous breaks, (2) success in business and profession, (3) good luck, (4) vital powers, (5) getting and making favourite, (6) acidity, (a) dysmenorrhoea, (b) leucorrhoea, red and white, (8) nocturnal emissions, (9) diabetes and other urinary diseases, (10) spleen, (11) good and evil spirits, (b) mitigating the influence of malignant stars, (12) (a) madness, (b) hysteria, (c) hypochondria, (13) (a) Barrenness, (b) still-born child, (14) asthma, consumption, (15) for gout and prevention from constant issues of daughter, (16) for various private purposes.

For full particulars apply by post.

*Terms moderate.*

For reply, send half-anna postage.

NOTE.—The Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, has been communicated with.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENERAL  
OF POLICE, L. P.,

WRITERS' BUILDINGS,

The 20th July 1901.

F. C. DALY,

Asst. to Insp.-General of Police, L.P.